



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/818,800	03/27/2001	Ronald P. Sansone	E-985	9888

919 7590 08/25/2005

PITNEY BOWES INC.
35 WATERVIEW DRIVE
P.O. BOX 3000
MSC 26-22
SHELTON, CT 06484-8000

EXAMINER

BASS, JON M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3639

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/818,800	Applicant(s) SANSONE, RONALD P.	
	Examiner Jon Bass	Art Unit 3639	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 March 2001.
 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response To Amendment

1. This is in response to an amendment. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-31 are pending in this applications.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
3. Regarding the rejection made by 35 USC 102. Applicant argues that the prior art doesn't notify the recipient electronically. The examiner respectfully disagrees with the characterization. Kanevsky discloses in the {abstract} that post office forwards the message via of email. Kanevsky invention is equipped with a tracking device {fig 1, 33}, which allows the recipient to be able to track and gives the option to notify or modify. Therefore the rejection made stands due to the reasons stated above and the due to the reported.
4. Regarding the rejection made by 35 USC 103. The applicant argues that the prior art doesn't notify the recipient electronically. For the reason stated above, one skilled in the art at the time of the invention would agree that Kanevsky discloses this method within the {abstract} and {col.2, lines 34-36}. Therefore the rejection made stands due to the reasons stated above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-14 and 20-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dimitri Kanevsky et al. (US Patent No 6,285,777), here on referenced as Kanevsky.

As per claims 1-14 and 20-31, Kanevsky et al. discloses a method that enables a recipient to inform a carrier how they would like their mail delivered, comprising the steps of:

- Kanevsky et al. discloses method in Figure 1, where the diagram illustrates a mail/internet connection.
- Kanevsky et al. discloses method in Figure 3, where the diagram illustrates a system for communication from an internet user to a mail receiver.
- Kanevsky et al. discloses method in Figure 5, where the diagram illustrates an example of information on an envelope relating to how and where a letter should be sent.

- A sender of a paper mail item (fig1, element 10)
- Sender sends message including the mail address for delivery of message (col.1, lines 33-36)
- Figure 1, items 14,16,18,30,20 of Kanevsky illustrates the process in which the message is being separated into two parts, one being the surface paper mail and the other as being routines by way of the internet mail which is then transferred into email information. (Col.2, lines 21-37).
- Prints a hard copy on paper to the addressee and delivers by local mail (Col.1, lines 40-42).
- The email data is transmitted to an internet user as internet mail (Col.2, lines 39-40, fig.2, element 20).
- Providing billing procedure (fig.2, element 39)
- The database can be connected to email and telephones. (Col.3, lines 22-25)
- Kanevsky discloses a method the describes the two separate mail choices, one being the mail route and the other being the internet routine with the internet route being faster then the mail route. (Col.4, lines 1-4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject

matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dimitri Kanevsky in further view of Andrew Egendorf (US Patent No 5,794,221) here-on referenced as Egendorf.

As for Claim 15:

Kanevsky discloses a method, but lacks wherein the recipient notifies the carrier to deliver the mail to the recipient by a slower delivery method than that paid for by the sender.

Egendorf discloses a method wherein the recipient notifies the carrier to deliver the mail to the recipient by a slower delivery method than that paid for by the sender (fig 1, displays the billing method), internet is used to collect payment.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kanevsky method in conjunction with Egendorf system to emulate a invention that deals with delivery of mail through the internet with billing procedures by way of the internet, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin.

As for Claim 16:

Kanevsky discloses a method, but lacks wherein the recipient notifies the carrier to deliver the mail to the recipient by a faster delivery method than that paid for by the sender.

Egendorf discloses a method wherein the recipient notifies the carrier to deliver the mail to the recipient by a faster delivery method than that paid for by the sender, (fig 1, displays the billing method), internet is used to collect payment.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kanevsky method in conjunction with Egendorf system to emulate a invention that deals with delivery of mail through the internet with billing procedures by way of the internet, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin.

As for Claim 17:

Kanevsky discloses a method, but lacks further including the step of: charging the recipient for receiving notification of the availability of the deposited mail.

Egendorf discloses a method further including the step of: charging the recipient for receiving notification of the availability of the deposited mail, (fig 1, displays the billing method), internet is used to collect payment.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kanevsky method in conjunction with Egendorf system to emulate a invention that deals with delivery of mail through the internet with billing procedures by way of the internet, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin.

As for Claim 18:

Kanevsky discloses a method, but lacks further including the step of: charging the

recipient for delivering mail to the recipient in the manner specified by the recipient to the carrier.

Egendorf discloses a method further including the step of: charging the recipient for delivering mail to the recipient in the manner specified by the recipient to the carrier, (fig 1, displays the billing method), internet is used to collect payment.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kanevsky method in conjunction with Egendorf system to emulate a invention that deals with delivery of mail through the internet with billing procedures by way of the internet, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin.

As for Claim 19:

Kanevsky discloses a method, but lacks further including the step of: charging the recipient for receiving notification of the availability of the deposited mail; and charging the recipient for delivering mail to the recipient in the manner specified by the recipient to the carrier.

Egendorf discloses a method including the step of: charging the recipient for receiving notification of the availability of the deposited mail; and charging the recipient for delivering mail to the recipient in the manner specified by the recipient to the, (fig 1, displays the billing method), internet is used to collect payment.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kanevsky method in conjunction with Egendorf system to

emulate a invention that deals with delivery of mail through the internet with billing procedures by way of the internet, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any concerns in regard to this communication, the examiner **Jon Bass** can be reached at **(571) 272-6905** between the hours of **9-6pm Monday through Friday**. The fax number for the establishment where the application is being process is **(571) 273-8300**.

If an attempt to reach the examiner is unsuccessful for any reason, the examiner's immediate supervisor, **John Hayes** can be reached at **(571) 272-6708**.

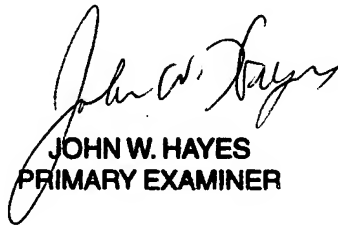
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see [http:// pair-direct.uspto.gov](http://pair-direct.uspto.gov). Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-271-9197 (toll free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

C/O Technology Center 3600

Washington, D.C. 20231



JOHN W. HAYES
PRIMARY EXAMINER